NIT-133-05

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application:

K. YASUDA et al

Serial No. 09/666,883

Filed: September 20, 2000

Group Art Unit:

1655

Examiner:

B. Forman

For:

POLYNUCLEOTIDE SEPARATION METHOD

AND APPARATUS THEREFOR

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before the first line of the specification, please insert the sentence:

--This is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/666,883, filed September 20, 2000, which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/522,465, filed on March 9, 2000 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,218,126), which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/329,318, filed June 10, 1999 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,093,370). This application is related to U.S. Serial No. 09/790,872, filed on February 23, 2001.

Pages 16 and 17, the paragraph bridging these pages from page 16, line 22 to page 17, line 19, replace the paragraph with: